

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 were pending at the time of examination. Claims 1, 3 and 5 have been amended. Claims 2, 4 and 6 have been canceled. No new matter has been added. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration based on the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Claims 1, 3 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,065,088 to Bronson et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,128,674 to Beukema et al. Claims 2, 4 and 6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The applicant has amended claims 1, 3 and 5 to incorporate the limitations of claims 2, 4 and 6, respectively, thereby making claims 1, 3 and 5 correspond to the allowable claims 2, 4 and 6. Consequently, claims 2, 4 and 6 have been canceled.

The applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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